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RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1556
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 2383
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2184
RHHMUNA/PACOM HONOLULU HI
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SUBJECT: KHAANQUEST 2006 PEACEKEEPING EXERCISE SCENESETTER

Classified By: Ambassador Pamela J. Slutz. Reasons: 1.4 (B) and (D).

1. (U) SUMMARY: KHAANQUEST 2006 IS THE PACIFIC-AREA GLOBAL PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS INITIATIVE (GPOI) CAPSTONE EVENT OF THE YEAR. IT HAS FOUR MAJOR COMPONENTS: 1) A MULTINATIONAL FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE (FTX) FOCUSING ON PEACEKEEPING SKILLS THAT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE FIVE HILLS TRAINING CENTER, 2) A MULTINATIONAL COMMAND POST EXERCISE (CPX) FOCUSING ON UN STAFF OPERATIONS THAT WILL TAKE PLACE IN ULAANBAATAR, 3) US-MONGOLIAN HUMANITARIAN CIVIC ACTIVITIES (HCA) FEATURING ENGINEERING PROJECTS AT THREE LOCATIONS IN ULAANBAATAR, AND 4) US-MONGOLIAN MEDICAL READINESS EXERCISE AND TRAINING EVENT (MEDRETE) WHICH WILL BE CONDUCTED IN ZAVKHAN AIMAG. THE FIRST THREE EVENTS OCCUR IN AUGUST. THE MEDRETE WILL BE IN SEPTEMBER. THESE EVENTS COME DURING A TIME OF SOLID AND GROWING DEFENSE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MONGOLIA. CURRENTLY 100 MONGOLIAN SOLDIERS ARE SERVING UNDER THE POLISH COMAND IN IRAQ IN MONGOLIA,S SIXTH ROTATION SUPPORTING OIF. IN RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR A SEVENTH ROTATION, MONGOLIA RECENTLY INFORMED US THAT IT WILL MAINTAIN ITS COMMITMENT TO OIF, BUT AT A REDUCED LEVEL. AT THE COMPLETION OF THE SIXTH ROTATION IN AUGUST, 2006, IT INTENDS TO WITHDRAW THE BULK OF ITS TROOPS BUT RETAIN A SMALL NUMBER OF OFFICERS IN IRAQ. WE ARE ENGAGED WITH THE GOM TO DETERMINE THE EXACT NATURE OF ITS PLANS AND HOW THEY WILL FIT INTO THE OVERALL MULTI-NATIONAL FORCE STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS. ADDITIONALLY, SMALL CADRES OF SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN SUPPORTING OEF BY TRAINING THE NEW AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY FOR OVER TWO YEARS. THERE ARE 250 MONGOLIANS DEPLOYED (FOR THE FIRST TIME UNDER THE UN) TO SIERRA LEONE. THEY RECENTLY SENT 40 SOLDIERS ON A KOSOVO MISSION WORKING PRIMARILY WITH BELGIUM, AND HAVE 3-4 UN MILITARY OBSERVERS IN AFRICA. MONGOLIA HAS A STRONG DESIRE TO INCREASE ITS UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS AND, AS PART OF ITS DEFENSE REFORM, PLANS TO CREATE A PEACEKEEPING BRIGADE (2500 SOLDIERS). THIS VISIT GIVES THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR MONGOLIA,S DESIRE TO ADD PEACEKEEPING FORCES AS PART OF ITS DEFENSE REFORM; AND TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR MONGOLIA,S UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY AS DEMONSTRATED BY ITS PARTICIPATION IN OIF, OEF, AND THE GWOT. END SUMMARY.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT:

2. (U) MONGOLIA HAS A MIXED PARLIAMENTARY-PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT. THE PRESIDENT IS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES. THE PRIME MINISITER, AS HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, SETS POLICY, INCLUDING DEFENSE POLICY. THE CIVILIAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE REPORTS TO THE PRIME MINISTER. THE PRESIDENT CHAIRS THE THREE-MEMBER NATIONAL SECURITY

COUNCIL WHICH IS EMPOWERED TO MAKE DEFENSE AND SECURITY DECISIONS. HOWEVER, ALL DECISIONS MUST HAVE THE CONCURRENCE OF THE OTHER TWO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE SPEAKER. THE UNIFORMED CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF REPORTS TO THE PRESIDENT, AS WELL AS TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE.

MONGOLIAN SENIOR LEADER SNAPSHOT:

¶3. (U) PRESIDENT N. ENKHBAYAR, THE HEAD OF STATE, WAS PRIME MINISTER 2000-2004, THEN SPEAKER UNTIL HE BECAME PRESIDENT IN ¶2005. IN LATE SEPTEMBER HE VISITED PACOM AND MET WITH ADMIRAL FALLON. HE WAS EDUCATED IN MOSCOW AND LEEDS UNIVERSITY, UK. HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH.

¶4. (U) PRIME MINISTER M. ENKHBOLD IS THE HEAD OF GOVERNMENT. HE IS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT (ELECTED IN AUGUST 2005) AND CHAIRMAN OF THE MONGOLIAN PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY PARTY (MPRP). HE LED THE MOVE TO TOPPLE THE MPRP-DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) COALITION GOVERNMENT IN JANUARY 2006 AND REPLACED (DP CHAIRMAN) ELBEGDORJ AS PRIME MINISTER. PRIOR TO 2005, HE HAD NO NATIONAL LEVEL OR FOREIGN POLICY EXPERIENCE. HE DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH.

¶5. (U) DEFENSE MINISTER M. SONIMPIL, HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT SINCE 2004 AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE SINCE JANUARY ¶2006. HE REPORTS TO THE PRIME MINISTER. A FORMER MEMBER OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, HE BROKE WITH THIS PARTY WHEN HE JOINED THE MPRP-LED GOVERNMENT AS MINISTER OF DEFENSE IN JANUARY ¶2006. HE, AND THREE OTHER MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT ELECTED IN 2004 ON THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY TICKET, HAVE FORMED A NEW POLITICAL PARTY. SONIMPIL HAS A BUSINESS BACKGROUND. HE UNDERSTANDS SOME BUT DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH.

¶6. (U) FOREIGN MINISTER N. ENKHBOLD HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT (REPRESENTING THE MPRP) SINCE 2004. HE BECAME FOREIGN MINISTER IN THE CABINET RESHUFFLE IN JANUARY 2006. EDUCATED IN RUSSIA AND AUSTRALIA, HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH.

¶7. (U) LIEUTENANT GENERAL TS. TOGOO, CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES (GSAF), IS AN ADVOCATE OF MILITARY REFORM, FOCUSED ON DEFENSE REFORM AND PEACEKEEPING. HE ACCOMPANIED THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS VISIT TO PACOM LAST SEPTEMBER. ORIGINALLY SLATED TO STEP DOWN EARLIER THIS YEAR, TOGOO HAS REMAINED IN HIS POSITION AT THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT ENKHBAYAR. HE SPEAKS AND UNDERSTANDS PASSABLE ENGLISH BUT PREFERS TO USE AN INTERPRETER.

¶8. (U) DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER B. ERDENEBAT, SERVED IN THE MILITARY FROM 1982-2003 AND WENT STRAIGHT FROM COLONEL TO HIS CURRENT POSITION. HE SPENT 8 YEARS IN RUSSIA STUDYING AT MILITARY INSTITUTES. HE HAS BEEN DEPUTY FOR FOUR DIFFERENT DEFENSE MINISTERS. HE HAS ALWAYS USED AN INTERPRETER.

¶9. (U) MAJOR GENERAL M. BORBAATAR, STATE SECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (MOD), IS A VERY ACTIVE ADVOCATE OF US-SPONSORED PROGRAMS. HE DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH.

¶10. (U) MAJOR GENERAL A. GANBAT, DEPUTY CHIEF OF GSAF, IS VERY WELL RESPECTED AND REFORM MINDED. HE FREQUENTLY PARTICIPATES IN PACOM FUNDED PROGRAMS, THE LATEST BEING PACIFIC ENDEAVOR. HE SPEAKS VERY GOOD ENGLISH.

¶11. (U) MAJOR GENERAL B. ERDENEBAT, FIRST DEPUTY CHIEF OF GSAF, CHIEF OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (MIA), PARTICIPATED IN THE SENIOR EXECUTIVES PROGRAM AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY. HE SPEAKS ENGLISH BUT OFTEN RELIES ON AN INTERPRETER.

¶12. (U) MAJOR GENERAL TS. BYAMBAJAV, CHIEF OF MONGOLIA,S AIR AND AIR DEFENSE FORCES. HE RECENTLY ATTENDED THE COPE THUNDER EXERCISE IN ALASKA. HE SPEAKS AND UNDERSTANDS PASSABLE ENGLISH.

¶13. (U) MAJOR GENERAL M. JARGAL, CHIEF OF MONGOLIAN LOGISTICS DEPARTMENT. RECENTLY BECAME VERY ACTIVE WITH US ACTIVITIES AS THE JOINT DEFENSE TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT AND

KHAANQUEST EVOLVED. HE DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH.

¶14. (U) MAJOR GENERAL N. JALBAJAV, DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY. HE IS A GRADUATE OF THE RUSSIAN MILITARY INSTITUTE, MILITARY ACADEMY OF MOSCOW, AND APCSS. HE SPEAKS AND UNDERSTANDS PASSABLE ENGLISH.

¶15. (U) COLONEL B. BATZORIG, CHIEF OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, MOD, WAS THE PREVIOUS MONGOLIAN DEFENSE ATTACHE TO THE UNITED STATES. HE IS USDAO,S MAIN POINT OF CONTACT FOR ORGANIZING AND COORDINATING VISITS AND EVENTS. HE SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH.

OTHER NOTABLES:

¶16. (U) MAJOR GENERAL P. SUNDEV, COMMANDER OF MONOLIA,S BORDER PROTECTION SERVICES. HE IS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF US DOD ACTIVITIES IN COUNTRY, TO INCLUDE THE BORDER COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT AND RECENT MILITARY MEDICAL HUMANITARIAN EVENTS. NOTE: THE BORDER PROTECTION SERVICES FALL UNDER THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND HOMELAND AFFAIRS.

¶17. (U) MAJOR GENERAL RAGCHAA. &FOUNDER OF MONGOLIAN PEACEKEEPING INITIATIVES8, CURRENTLY SERVING AT THE UN IN NEW YORK.

¶18. (U) MAJOR GENERAL ULANKHUU. THE SENIOR MONGOLIAN LNO SERVING AT CENTCOM IN TAMPA, FLORIDA.

¶19. (U) MAJOR GENERAL CHOIJAMTS. PULLED AWAY AS CHIEF OF PEACEKEEPING DEPARTMENT TO ATTEND THE US INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE OF THE ARMED FORCES.

¶20. (U) LIEUTENANT GENERAL (RETIRED) DASHZEVIG. MILITARY ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT. A BEHIND-THE-SCENES, PRO-US ADVOCATE.

¶21. (U) SENIOR HIGH COMMISSIONER DASH. CHIEF OF MONGOLIAN NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NEMA). NEMA HAS ACTIVITIES WITH THE ALASKA GUARD UNDER THE STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM.

NON-KQ DOD PERSONNEL TDY TO MONGOLIA
DURING THIS VISIT:

¶22. (U) MARFORPAC HAS A TEAM OF SIX MARINES IN COUNTRY. THEY ARE EMBEDDED WITH UNIT #150 AND UNIT #327. THEIR FOCUS IS UNIT-LEVEL ENLISTED DEVELOPMENT AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM.

MONGOLIAN PUBLIC OPINION AND THE WAR ON TERROR:

¶23. (U) MONGOLIANS GENERALLY SUPPORT THE INTERNATIONAL WAR ON TERROR. THEY WERE SHOCKED BY THE 9/11 ATTACKS AND WERE VERY SUPPORTIVE OF THE EARLY STAGES OF THE WAR ON TERROR THAT FOLLOWED 9/11. MONGOLIA WAS ALSO AMONG THE FIRST NATIONS TO STRONGLY SUPPORT THE US ACTIONS IN AFGHANISTAN. MONGOLIANS, IN GENERAL, CONTINUE TO FAVOR THE OVERALL WAR ON TERRORISM. HOWEVER, BECAUSE THERE HAVE NOT BEEN ANY TERROR ATTACKS IN, OR EVEN NEAR MONGOLIA, MOST MONGOLIANS SEE THE STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM AS A REMOTE AND ABSTRACT ISSUE. ISSUES SUCH AS THE ECONOMY, JOBS, AND EDUCATION ARE ALL MUCH MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES TO THE AVERAGE MONGOLIAN.

¶24. (U) MOST MONGOLIANS DID NOT FEEL THAT SADDAM HUSSEIN WAS AN URGENT THREAT TO WORLD PEACE AND ESPECIALLY TO MONGOLIA. HOWEVER, MOST FELT THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT SADDAM HUSSEIN BE REMOVED BECAUSE OF HIS BRUTALITY TOWARDS THE IRAQI PEOPLE. VOCAL OPPOSITION TO THE WAR IN IRAQ IS ALMOST NON-EXISTENT BUT A FEW NEWSPAPERS HAVE RUN COMMENTARIES CRITICIZING THE MONGOLIAN GOVERNMENT'S PARTICIPATION IN THE COALITION. EVEN THESE ARTICLES HAVE TENDED TO CRITICIZE THE ALLEGED SECRECY AND HASTE WITH WHICH THE DECISION WAS MADE RATHER THAN TAKING ISSUE WITH THE END RESULT. RECENT VISITS BY EMBASSY OFFICIALS TO WESTERN MONGOLIA AND DISCUSSIONS WITH THE LARGE (MUSLIM) KAZAKH MINORITY IN THAT PART OF THE COUNTRY CONFIRM

THAT THERE IS GENERAL SUPPORT FOR U.S. POLICY TOWARD THE MIDDLE EAST AND FOR THE COALITIONS IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, IN PARTICULAR.

¶25. (U) PUBLIC OPINION ON THE MONGOLIAN TROOPS IN IRAQ IS MUTED BUT GENERALLY POSITIVE. THE MONGOLIAN GOVERNMENT HAS IMPROVED AND EXPANDED ITS PUBLIC RELATIONS ATTENTION TO THE POSITIVE ROLE PLAYED BY THE MONGOLIAN TROOPS. BY AND LARGE, THE GENERAL PUBLIC) PARTICULARLY THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THE NEARLY 700 SOLDIERS WHO HAVE SERVED TO DATE IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN) IS SUPPORTIVE OF PEACEKEEPING IN GENERAL, AND OF MONGOLIA,S CONTRIBUTION TO OIF AND OEF. THE PRESIDENT OF MONGOLIAN PRESIDES OVER AWARD CEREMONIES FOR RETURNING SOLDIERS; A NEW PEACEKEEPING MEDAL WAS STRUCK IN 2004, AND A NATIONAL PEACEKEEPING DAY WAS PROCLAIMED. OVERALL, THERE IS A SENSE OF PRIDE THAT MONGOLIA IS PARTICIPATING IN SUCH HISTORIC EVENTS AND THAT MONGOLIA IS SHOULDERING ITS SHARE OF INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES. ALTHOUGH MANY MONGOLIANS SEEM ONLY VAGUELY AWARE THAT MONGOLIA HAS TROOPS IN IRAQ, EVEN NOMADIC HERDERS WATCH TV AND NOW UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT MONGOLIA,S COMMITMENT TO THE COALITION. THERE HAS BEEN NO REAL OPPOSITION TO THE MISSION, AND NO CALLS TO BRING THE TROOPS HOME. THE PUBLIC APATHY ON THE ISSUE WOULD LIKELY CHANGE QUICKLY IF MONGOLIAN SOLDIERS SUFFERED CASUALTIES. HOWEVER, AFTER SIX ROTATIONS AND OVER 700 SOLDIERS, IT IS NOT CERTAIN THE APATHY WOULD CHANGE TO OPPOSITION.

USDAO ASSESSMENT OF MONGOLIA,S MILITARY FORCES:

¶26. (U) THE MONGOLIAN ARMED FORCES (MAF) ARE A RELATIVELY SMALL BUT DISCIPLINED, PRO-WESTERN FORCE. WITH MODEST ATTENTION, THIS MILITARY CAN BE A REGIONAL ASSET AS A PEACEKEEPING-CONTRIBUTING NATION AND A ROLE MODEL FOR NORTHEAST AND CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES. ITS UNIQUE GEOPOLITICAL POSITION ALSO MAKES THE MAF WORTH DEVELOPING AS A DOD/PACOM ASSET. MONGOLIANS TACITLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE MAF IS NO MATCH FOR THE FORCES OF EITHER OF ITS NEIGHBORS, CHINA OR RUSSIA, BUT CONTINUE TO KEEP DEFENSE OF NATION, AS A TOP MISSION.

¶27. (U) THE MONGOLIAN ARMED FORCES WERE LONG DOMINATED BY SOVIET MILITARY PRESENCE AND CONSIDERED ESSENTIALLY AN APPENDAGE OF THE SOVIET FORCES IN THE FAR EAST THEATER. SINCE 1992, THE MONGOLIAN MILITARY HAS UNDERTAKEN A NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES TO SIMULTANEOUSLY INTEGRATE THE MAF INTO THE NEW DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM AND TO ESTABLISH A POLITICALLY NEUTRAL PROFESSIONAL MILITARY THROUGH RIGHTSIZING AND RESTRUCTURING.

¶28. (U) THE EFFORTS TOWARDS SUBORDINATING THE MILITARY TO CIVILIAN COMMAND AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL. A DEFENSE AUDITING AGENCY MONITORS COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS AND CONTROL OF RESOURCES. IT IS MADE UP OF CIVILIANS AND ANSWERS DIRECTLY TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE. THE INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES, WHICH RESEARCHES AND DEVELOPS POLICY POSITIONS ON STRATEGIC ISSUES FOR ALL BRANCHES OF THE GOVERNMENT, IS ALSO SUBORDINATE TO THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE. THE STAFF IS A COMBINATION OF CIVILIAN AND MILITARY RESEARCHERS WITH EXTENSIVE TRAINING ABROAD. THE MAF HAS AN ACTIVE PROGRAM OF STUDY WITH THE US CENTER FOR CIVIL MILITARY RELATIONS. THEY HAVE ALSO BEEN VERY COOPERATIVE AND OPEN DURING THE JDTA.

¶29. (U) MONGOLIA,S THREE PRIMARY MISSIONS AND THE FOCUS OF THEIR TRANSFORMATION ARE: INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, DEFENSE OF THE NATION THROUGH SUPPORT TO THE BORDER PROTECTIVE SERVICE, AND SUPPORT FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER RELIEF OPERATIONS.

¶30. (U) THE ACTIVE MILITARY CONSISTS OF THE MAF. IN TIME OF WAR, THE MONGOLIAN BORDER PROTECTION SERVICE COMES UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE MILITARY. FOUR YEARS AGO THE BORDER FORCES AND THE CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY (NOW NEMA) WERE PART OF THE ACTIVE MILITARY. THE BORDER FORCES ARE NOW SUBORDINATE TO THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND HOMELAND AFFAIRS WHILE NEMA IS UNDER THE MINISTRY FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. AFTER MUCH DEBATE, MONGOLIA BEGAN TO SHIFT TO A LIGHTER, MORE COMPACT

FORCE STRUCTURE. SUPPORT UNITS WERE UNIFIED TO CAPITALIZE ON SCARCE RESOURCES. SINCE 1985, THE NUMBER OF ACTIVE DUTY FORCES HAS BEEN REDUCED BY 75 PERCENT. THE MAF NOW HAS APPROXIMATELY 10,000 SOLDIERS (7,500-11,000- DEPENDING ON SOURCE) WITH 120,000 INACTIVE RESERVISTS.

131. (U) THE MOST SIGNIFICANT MAF RESTRUCTURING COMPLETED TO DATE IS THE CURRENT RESTRUCTURING EFFORTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS AND EXPANSION OF PEACEKEEPING TRAINING. IN ADDITION TO DEPLOYING PEACEKEEPERS TO UNITED NATIONS MISSIONS, THE MONGOLIAN ARMED FORCES HAVE ESTABLISHED A DEDICATED PEACEKEEPING BATTALION AND A DEPARTMENT FOR PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS (DPKO). THE DEPARTMENT CAPITALIZES ON INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, COORDINATES TRAINING, AND DEVELOPS AND TEACHES DOCTRINE AT ALL OF MONGOLIA,S COMBAT ARMS UNITS. THE MAF IS NOW CONSIDERING PLANS FOR A CENTER OF PEACEKEEPING EXCELLENCE AT THE NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY. A SECOND PEACEKEEPING BATTALION HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED IN DARKHAN, BUT IS NOT YET FULLY STAFFED OR EQUIPPED.

132. (U) IN RECENT BILATERAL EXCHANGES, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MONGOLIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND GENERAL STAFF LAID OUT THEIR OBJECTIVES FOR OUR MILITARY-TO-MILITARY COOPERATION PROGRAM, INCLUDING THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. THEIR OBJECTIVES INCLUDE DEVELOPING PEACEKEEPING CAPACITY, ACQUIRING INDIVIDUAL SOLIDER EQUIPMENT THROUGH EDA, AMERICAN LANGUAGE TRAINING, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER CORPS DEVELOPMENT, SENIOR-TO-JUNIOR STAFF AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING, AIR DEFENSE COURSES, AND COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION. THE MAF IS AVIDLY SEEKING ASSISTANCE TO TRANSFORM TO A MODERN G/J STAFF FORMAT AS PART OF THEIR DEFENSE REFORM.

133. (U) THE STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM) AS PART OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU,S NATION-STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM, THE MONGOLIAN MILITARY AND THE ALASKA GUARD HAVE A STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM. THIS PARTNERSHIP HAS GROWN TO INCLUDE ACTIVITIES WITH THE BPS AND THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NEMA). IN THE FUTURE IT MAY ALSO INCLUDE OTHER ALASKAN GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND CIVILIAN ORGANIZATIONS. AS A RESULT OF THIS PARTNERSHIP, MONGOLIA SENT OBSERVERS TO THE NORTHERN EDGE, HOMELAND SECURITY EXERCISE IN ALASKA, AND THE ALASKA ARMY AND AIR GUARD HAS BEEN TO MONGOLIA FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS SUBJECT MATTER EXCHANGES, COMBAT LIFESAVING TRAINING, AND HUMANITARIAN MEDICAL EVENTS.

134. (U) COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT WITH BORDER FORCES. THIS WAS ORIGINALLY PROGRAMMED AS A THREE-YEAR, TWO-PHASE PROJECT TO UPGRADE BORDER COMMUNICATIONS IN UVS AND DORNOD PROVINCES. HOWEVER, DUE TO FMF SHORTFALLS, THE PROJECT IS IN ITS FOURTH YEAR WITH ONLY PHASE ONE NEARLY FINISHED. IN 2002, THE BORDER FORCES WERE TRANSFERRED FROM MOD TO THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE/INTERIOR; THEY REPORT TO THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE/INTERIOR.

135. (U) PEACEKEEPING EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING. MONGOLIA RECENTLY RECEIVED \$4.55 MILLION IN EIPC/GPOI FUNDING AND 11 MILLION IN COALITION SOLIDARITY FUNDS (CSF) TO SUPPORT THEIR EFFORTS TO ENTER INTO UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS AND TO DEVELOP THE FIVE HILLS TRAINING CENTER INTO A REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER. MOST OF THE FY 06 GPOI FUNDING IS BEING SPENT TO SUPPORT THE KHAAN QUEST EXERCISE. CSF FUNDS ARE BEING USED TO PURCHASE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, NIGHT VISION DEVICES, AND GPS GEAR FOR THE PEACEKEEPING BATTALIONS. THESE PURCHASES ARE CURRENTLY BEING PROCESSED AT DSCA. CSF WILL ALSO HELP FUND FIVE HILLS TRAINING AREA IMPROVEMENTS, TO INCLUDE WEAPONS AND DRIVING SIMULATORS, AND TRAINING. FOR FY08, WE EXPECT THE BULK OF THE FUNDING FOR MONGOLIA,S PKO TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT TO CONTINUE TO COME FROM CSF AND GPOI.

INTELLIGENCE RELATIONSHIPS WITH MONGOLIA:

36.(S//NF) BACKGROUND. THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT HAVE A BILATERAL INTELLIGENCE SHARING RELATIONSHIP WITH MONGOLIA. HISTORICALLY, AS A RESULT OF THE FORMER-SOVIET OCCUPATION OF MONGOLIA, SOVIET SPONSORED MILITARY TRAINING TO THE

MONGOLIANS, AND MONGOLIA,S GEO-STRATEGIC LOCATION AS A BUFFER TO CHINA, RUSSIAN INFLUENCE ON THE MONGOLIAN ARMED FORCES REMAINS STRONG. THEIR PROXIMITY TO CHINA AND THE AFORE MENTIONED GEO-STRATEGIC LOCATION (FOR THE CHINESE AS WELL AS THE US) IMPLIES POSSIBLE TIES WITH THE CHINESE AS WELL. NEVERTHELESS, MONGOLIA HAS REQUESTED AN INTELLIGENCE SHARING AGREEMENT, OFFERING INFORMATION ON CHINA AND NORTH KOREA. THE PROPOSAL IS UNDER INTERAGENCY CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON.

USDAO RELATIONS WITH OTHER ATTACHE OFFICES:

137. (C) RUSSIA, CHINA, AND FRANCE ARE THE ONLY OTHER COUNTRIES WITH RESIDENT ATTACHE OFFICES IN MONGOLIA. RELATIONS ARE WARM AND FRIENDLY. THEY ARE WELL AWARE OF THE PEACEKEEPING TRAINING AND SECURITY ASSISTANCE WE PROVIDE.

138. (C) OTHER ATTACHES ACCREDITED TO MONGOLIA ARE POSTED IN BEIJING. THEY OCCASIONALLY COME TO ULAANBAATAR FOR REPRESENTATIONAL FUNCTIONS OR BRIEF OFFICIAL VISITS. COUNTRIES WORTH NOTING ARE GERMANY, TURKEY, INDIA, SWITZERLAND, BELGIUM, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. USDAO HELPS COORDINATE SENDING GERMAN-FUNDED, MONGOLIAN CANDIDATES TO THE MARSHALL CENTER. TURKEY HAS DONATED 15 TONS OF EXCESS MILITARY EQUIPMENT. INDIA CONDUCTED JOINT TRAINING WITH THE MONGOLIANS AT THE FIVE HILLS TRAINING CENTER IN 2004 AND BROUGHT A PLATOON TO INDIA IN DECEMBER 2005. SWITZERLAND IS TRYING TO DONATE EXCESS MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO HELP OUTFIT THE PEACEKEEPING MISSIONS. BELGIUM FUNDED THE TRAINING AND TRANSPORTATION OF TROOPS TO KOSOVO TO SUPPORT THEIR OWN FORCES IN COUNTRY. THE UNITED KINGDOM IS HELPING THE MAF INCREASE ITS ENGLISH LANGUAGE CAPACITY AND HAS BEEN A STRONG ADVOCATE FOR USING MONGOLIA AS A NEUTRAL PLACE TO CONDUCT MULTINATIONAL PEACEKEEPING TRAINING WITH THE US, RUSSIA, AND CHINA.

USDAO ASSISTANCE OBJECTIVES FOR MONGOLIA:

139. (U) PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS. MONGOLIA INITIATED INTEREST IN UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS WHEN IT SENT OBSERVERS TO THE CONGO IN 2002 AND MOROCCO IN 2003. ASSISTING MONGOLIA WITH PEACEKEEPING DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN OUR MAIN FOCUS. WE CURRENTLY HAVE ACCESS TO SOME \$15 MILLION TO SUPPORT PEACEKEEPING DEVELOPMENT AND ALTHOUGH, TO DATE, NO US-FUNDED PK EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN DELIVERED, OUR PAST SUPPORT AND PLANS TO MODERNIZE FIVE HILLS TRAINING CENTER HAVE BEEN FRUITFUL. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 150TH ELITE PEACEKEEPING BATTALION SHOWS WHAT IS POSSIBLE WHEN WE COOPERATE IN AREAS WHERE THE MAF IS ALSO ABLE TO COMMIT ITS LIMITED RESOURCES. TO DATE EIPC-FUNDED UNIT TRAINING, AMERICAN LANGUAGE LABS AND MATERIALS, AND COMPUTER EQUIPMENT ARE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW DEPARTMENT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS IN MAF--AN ORGAN THAT IS DRIVING OVERALL REFORM AND LED TO THE 250-MAN ARMED CONTINGENT GUARDING THE UN WAR CRIMES COURT IN SIERRA LEONE SINCE DECEMBER 2005. ALONG WITH RELATED PACOM TRAINING EVENTS, THE CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF OFFICERS AND NCOS THROUGH IMET COURSES, INITIATION OF AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR PEACEKEEPERS WITH EIPC FUNDED MATERIALS AND IMET LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR MTTS FROM DLI, ASSISTANCE IN ESTABLISHING A SECOND PEACEKEEPING BATTALION WITH EIPC-FUNDED COURSES, PROVIDING A NATIONAL DECISION-MAKERS ORIENTATION TO REAL-WORLD PEACEKEEPING, FUNDING A UNITED NATIONS STAFF OFFICERS COURSE, AND EMBEDDING US NCOS TO HELP MONGOLIA PROFESSIONALIZE AND DEVELOP THEIR ENLISTED CORPS WILL DIRECTLY SUPPORT MONGOLIAN AND US NATIONAL INTERESTS WITH THE FIELDING OF A DISCIPLINED, WESTERN -STANDARD PEACEKEEPING UNIT.

140. (U) NCO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. THIS INITIATIVE HAS GREAT POTENTIAL AND IS THE BEDROCK TO FURTHER, DEEPER REFORMS. IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL FOR MONGOLIA TO DEVELOP A PROFESSIONAL NCO CORPS IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO CONDUCT INTERNATIONAL COALITION OPERATIONS*PEACEKEEPING, HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, AND/OR DISASTER RELIEF. MONGOLIA IS THE FIRST COUNTRY IN NORTHEAST ASIA TO EXPRESS A DESIRE TO RADICALLY ALTER THEIR CONCEPTS ON THE PROFESSIONAL NCO. MORE

IMPORTANTLY, MAF WANTS TO USE US SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO DEVELOP A CORE CADRE OF NCO TRAINERS, CAPABLE OF DEVELOPING AN INDEPENDENT MONGOLIAN NCO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. WITH THE HELP OF PACOM, SEVERAL MONGOLIA NCO,S ATTENDED THE US ARMY NCO ACADEMY IN HAWAII; WITH THE HELP OF MARFORPAC, US MARINES ARE LIVING AND WORKING WITH THE 150TH NEAR ULAANBAATAR AND THE 327TH IN CHOIBALSAN; AND PACOM HAS SENT A SENIOR NCO TO ASSIST THE GENERAL STAFF HEADQUARTERS IN STRATEGIC-LEVEL DEVELOPMENT.

¶41. (U) BORDER FORCES COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT. COMPLETION OF THE FIRST AND SECOND (FINAL) PHASE OF THIS PROGRAM IS ESSENTIAL TO BOTH MONGOLIA AND TO US INTERESTS IN THE AREA. MONGOLIA HAS A LONG AND POROUS BORDER WITH RUSSIA AND CHINA. THE U.S. COMMITTED TO EQUIP TWO PROVINCES (UVS AND DORNOD) WITH MODERN COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT TO ENABLE UNITS TO COMMUNICATE SECURELY WITH THEIR PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS AND WITH ULAANBAATAR. THE TWO PROVINCES ARE SIGNIFICANT IN THAT THEY BORDER ON 1) IN THE CASE OF UVS, THE RUSSIAN REPUBLIC OF TUVA (INFAMOUS FOR LIVESTOCK RUSTLING AND OTHER CROSS-BORDER CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES) AND 2) IN THE CASE OF DORNOD, BOTH RUSSIA AND CHINA. MONGOLIA IS CONCERNED ABOUT CROSS-BORDER SMUGGLING OF GOODS AND PEOPLE IN THIS PROVINCE. AT THE TIME THE U.S. COMMITTED TO THIS PROJECT, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THROUGH THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, UNDERTOOK TO EQUIP THE OTHER PROVINCES WITH BORDERS ON CHINA AND RUSSIA WITH COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, WHICH HAS BEEN DONE. A DOD-CONTRACTED U.S. COMPANY HAS NEARLY COMPLETED INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT IN UVS PROVINCE; ANNUAL SHORTFALLS IN FMF FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT HAVE DELAYED COMPLETION BY TWO YEARS. IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT ADDITIONAL FMF WILL BE ALLOCATED IN FY08 AND BEYOND FOR THE SECOND (AND FINAL) PHASE, INSTALLATION IN DORNOD PROVINCE. AMBASSADOR AND STATE HAVE PROPOSED THAT THE SECOND PHASE BE FUNDED OUT OF UNSPENT FY06 OR FY07 FMF FUNDS OR THAT THE PROJECT BE SIGNIFICANTLY SCALED BACK AND FUNDED OUT OF ESF IN FY08. BORDER FORCES ARE INCLUDED IN IMET TRAINING.

¶42. (U) MILITARY REFORM AND RESTRUCTURING. THIS CONTINUES TO BE A SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT OF THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE TRAINING PROGRAM. THE MAF PLACES GREAT VALUE ON THE TRAINING AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT REFORM AND RESTRUCTURING EFFORTS, ESPECIALLY THE E-IMET PROGRAMS. TO DATE, SENIOR MAF LEADERSHIP, INCLUDING THE CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF HIMSELF, HAVE BEEN PROMOTED DUE TO THEIR ATTENDANCE AT IMET COURSES. THESE REFORMERS ARE LOOKING TO QUICKLY BUILD QUALIFIED STAFFS AND SUBORDINATE LEADERS-- A FUTURE CADRE BASED ON PARTICIPATION IN E-IMET PROGRAMS. PROGRAMS FROM THE DEFENSE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES (DIILS) AND THE CENTER FOR CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS (CCMR) HAVE ALSO BEEN ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED.

¶43. (U) ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING. BASED ON ASSESSMENTS BY THE DEFENSE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE/ENGLISH LANGUAGE CENTER, MAF HAS REFOCUSSED ITS LANGUAGE-TRAINING PROGRAM. THEY HAVE IDENTIFIED LONG-TERM INSTRUCTORS, WHO SHOULD REMAIN IN PLACE AS LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS FOR EXTENDED PERIODS. THEY HAVE REVISED THE STUDENT SELECTION PROCESS AND INSTITUTED NEW REGULATIONS THAT SUPPORT UNINTERRUPTED TRAINING. THEY HAVE BEGUN MASS TESTING AND EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES FOR FUTURE IMET COURSES AND ENTER MORE THAN ONE CANDIDATE IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE LARGER NUMBERS OF QUALIFIED CANDIDATES.

¶44. (U) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER RELIEF OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION. AFTER 9/11 MILITARY HUMANITARIAN EVENTS IN MONGOLIA CEASED; HOWEVER, FY05 SAW A RESURGENCE OF EVENTS. PACOM/COE HOSTED AN AUSTERE ENVIRONMENTS MEDICAL SYMPOSIUM, THE ANNUAL KHAANQUEST EXERCISE INCLUDED HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS WITH LOCAL SCHOOLS AND NGOS, THE EMBEDDED MARINES USE HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS TO SHARE LEADERSHIP SKILLS WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS, AND USARPAC AND THE AK GUARD DEPLOYED TO REMOTE AREAS WITH MAF AND BPS COUNTERPARTS TO PROVIDE MEDICAL CARE AT RURAL HOSPITALS. IN RELATION TO THESE EVENTS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN LEFT BEHIND TO INCLUDE ORTHOPEDIC SURGICAL EQUIPMENT, FIRST AID KITS, HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL RESPONSE KITS, AND MEDICINES. ON THE SCHEDULE IS A USARPAC DISASTER PROGRAM MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT. THESE EVENTS PROVIDE

EXCELLENT TRAINING FOR US FORCES TO PREPARE THEM FOR COMBAT/AUSTERE ENVIRONMENTS AND MULTINATIONAL EVENTS. THESE EVENTS ALSO HELP ONE OF MONGOLIA,S DEFENSE REFORM OBJECTIVES TO IMPROVE CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS AND ADD EXPERIENCE TO THEIR HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF CAPABILITIES.

¶45. (U) AIR FORCE-RELATED TRAINING. DUE TO A COMPLETE LACK OF RESOURCES, MAF WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REFORM ITS FLYING AIR FORCE IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, AND WE WILL NOT REQUEST RELATED SLOTS. HOWEVER, AS AIR DEFENSE IS PART OF THE AIR FORCE, WE ARE PURSUING SPECIFIC TRAINING LINE ITEMS IN THIS FIELD AS WELL AS AIR-RELATED FIELDS THAT MAY SUPPORT PEACEKEEPING DEPLOYMENTS AND OPERATIONS. (FOR EXAMPLE, SLOTS TO THE US ARMY ADA OFFICER BASIC COURSE, TARMAC SECURITY, AND CARGO LOADPLANNING)

CURRENT SNAPSHOT OF
US-MONGOLIAN MILITARY ACTIVITIES:

¶46. (U) THE FOLLOWING STATESIDE COURSES CURRENTLY HAVE A MONGOLIAN MILITARY STUDENT IN ATTENDANCE: ARMY WAR COLLEGE, INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE OF THE ARMED FORCES, INFANTRY OFFICER BASIC COURSE, ARMY RANGER COURSE, ARMY SIGNAL OFFICER BASIC COURSE, HEALTH CARE SPECIALIST COURSE, INTERNATIONAL OFFICER INTELLIGENCE COURSE, DLI LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR COURSE, PEACEKEEPING FOR DECISION MAKERS COURSE, USMC COMMAND & STAFF COLLEGE, AND USMC DRILL INSTRUCTOR COURSE.

¶47. (U) MONGOLIANS ARE ALSO AT THE ASIAN-PACIFIC CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES.

¶48. (U) CURRENT TITLE X-FUNDED EVENTS WITH MONGOLIAN PARTICIPATION INCLUDE THE PIRAB/FABIRU EXERCISE IN THAILAND.

¶49. (U) ACTIVITIES IN-COUNTRY INCLUDE THE USMC EMBED ENLISTED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND KHAANQUEST.

SLUTZ